(b) if so, the time by which and locations from where work on this plan is proposed to start;

(c) the details of the works proposed to be included in the said plan; and

(d) the estimated expenditure of Narmada Action Plan and its time-bound programme thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Bonded Labour

4368. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to eradicate the bonded labour system, the Indian Bonded Labour Organisation suggested any measures in recent times in this regard; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fake Universities or Educational Institutions

4370. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the students who obtain degrees/diplomas from the Universities/Institutions not recognised by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): The University Grants Commission has been issuing press notes from time to time, warning students and general public against those institutions which are not entitled to call themselves as universities or award degrees under the UGC Act. UGC has issued notices to such institutions asking them not to call themselves as universities and award degrees, and in some cases also filed cases against them. State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have also been asked to keep a strict vigil and prosecute such institutions for violation of UGC Act and other penal laws.

The question related to future of those students who have obtained unrecognised degrees from fake universities was considered by UGC. The Commission was of the opinion that no lenient view can be taken of such degrees and such persons may be required to obtain degrees from any recognised university.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance to Students for Sports

4371. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide any financial assistance to such students, who take deep interest in sports at university level and show excellent performance; and

(b) if so, the criteria fixed in this regard and the amount of financial assistance provided to such students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.